

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SECTO 01134 232049Z

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FM USDEL SECRETARY

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

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S E C R E T SECTO 01134

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO BITSIOS FROM THE SECRETARY
FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. BEGIN FYI: I DO NOT WISH TO GIVE TOO DETAILED AN ACCOUNT OF MY CONVERSATIONS IN ANKARA AT THIS TIME. WE SHOULD SAVE THIS FOR OUR TALKS IN BRUSSELS WHERE I CAN DESCRIBE THE SITUATION MORE FULLY. END FYI.
2. IN THE MEANTIME YOU SHOULD CONVEY THE FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE TO BITSIOS. BEGIN TEXT: IN MY TWO DAYS IN ANKARA I HAD GOOD TALKS WITH DEMIREL, CAGLAYANGIL, AND ECEVIT. AS YOU INDICATED TO ME, THE FOREIGN MINISTER IS PLEASED WITH THE START THAT HAS BEEN MADE IN YOUR BILATERAL DIALOGUE. THEY SEEM TO SEE THIS PROCESS AS A MEANS TO OVERCOME THE DIFFICULT ISSUES THAT ARE OUTSTANDING. THEY FEEL THAT THERE ARE SERIOUS POLITICAL PROBLEMS ON BOTH SIDES BUT THEY APPEAR TO BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE.

WITH BOTH THE GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND ECEVIT, I GAVE A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF WHY I THOUGHT IT WAS IN THE TURKISH NATIONAL INTEREST TO MOVE NOW TOWARD A SETTLEMENT OF CYPRUS AND THAT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE THEY WOULD HAVE TO INDICATE FLEXIBILITY ON TERRITORY AND REFUGEES. I ARGUED WITH ECEVIT THAT HE SHOULD SEE THIS OVERRIDING NATIONAL INTEREST AND GIVE HIS QUIET SUPPORT TO THE EFFORT.

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THEY OF COURSE DESCRIBED THE COMPLEXITIES OF THEIR

POLITICAL SITUATION BUT MY OVERALL IMPRESSION IS THAT
THEY ACCEPT THE LOGIC OF THIS POINT OF VIEW. I BELIEVE
THAT THE TURKS WANT TO NARROW THE ISSUES USING BOTH THE
BILATERAL TALKS WITH YOU AND THE COMMUNAL TALKS IN
VIENNA.

THE TURKS SEEM TO ACCEPT THE NEED FOR ECONOMIC
VIABILITY. IN FACT, ECEVIT MADE THE POINT THAT THE
ISLAND CANNOT BE VIABLE UNLESS WORKING ARRANGEMENTS ARE
FOUND THAT PERMIT THE COMMUNITIES TO WORK TOGETHER IN
THE ECONOMIC AREA.

I INDICATED THAT THE PRESIDENT LOOKS FORWARD TO HIS TALKS WITH
BOTH PRIME MINISTERS IN BRUSSELS AND THAT WE WILL
CONTINUE TO TRY AND HELP IMPROVE GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS
AND ADVANCE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION.

I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING THE TROUBLE TO
KEEP ME INFORMED AND I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DISCUSSIONS
NEXT WEEK. END TEXT.

KISSINGER

SECRET

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